GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6962
ANSWERED ON:11.05.2000
AGRICULTURAL LANDS TO SC/ST PERSONS
RAMDAS ATHAWALE

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have owned far less quantity of agricultural land as compared to the land owned by the non-SCs/STs;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) whether only a few communities of SCs/STs in States have become the owners of agricultural land;

(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise: and

(e) the steps taken to provide agricultural land to SC/STs?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

(Shri A Raja)

(a) & (b) As per data available from Agricultural Census 1990-91, the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and others, respectively held 325.43 lakh acres (13.17 million hectares) 442.56 lakh acres (17.91 million hectares) and 3321.52 lakh acres (134.42 million hectares) of operated area. It is estimated that out of these operated areas, 12.84 million hectares was owned by Scheduled Castes and 17.37 million hectares was owned by Scheduled Tribes. The share of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and others in the total operated area was 8.0 per cent, 10.8 per cent and 81.2 per cent respectively during 1991. As per the Population Census, 1991, the total population of Scheduled Castes was 16.48 per cent and the population of Scheduled Tribes was 8.08 per cent of total population of the country (excluding Jammu & Kashmir). The data for past Agricultural Censuses indicates that the share of Scheduled Castes farmers in the total operated area has increased from 7.0 per cent during 1980-81 to 8.0 per cent in 1990-91. The share of Scheduled Tribes farmers during the same period has increased from 10.2 per cent to 10.8 per cent. State-wise details are given in the Annexure.

(c) & (d) Community-wise information is not maintained by the Central Government.

(e) The land acquired by the Government through imposition of ceiling on agricultural holdings, Government wastelands and Bhoodan lands are distributed to the rural poor including SCs and STs. Since inception of the programme, an area of 52.68 lakh acres of ceiling surplus lands, 147.47 lakh acres of Government wastelands and 21.75 lakh acres of Bhoodan lands have been distributed to rural poor including SCs and STs. Nearly 50 per cent of ceiling surplus land distributed to the rural poor has been allocated to SCs and STs in the proportion of 36 per cent to SCs and 14 per cent to STs.

Annexure

Statement Referred to in Reply to parts (a) & (b) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.6962 due for answer on 11.5.2000.

State-wise distribution of Area Operated in 1990-91

(Area in thousands hects.)

Sl. No.	STATE	SCHEDULED CASTES	SCHEDULED TRIBES	OTHERS	ALL SOCIAL GROUPS
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1082	1045	12333	14460
		(7.48)	(7.23)	(85.29)	(100.00)

2. Arunanchal 0.00 344 6 350
Pradesh (0.00) (98.29) (1.71) (100.00)

3. Assam 131 458 2616 3205
(4.09) (14.29) (81.62) (100.00)

4 . Bihar 645 1745 8353 10743
(6.00) (16.24) (77.75) (100.00)

5. Goa (Ng) 0.00 67 67
(0.71) (0.00) (99.29) (100.00)

6. Gujarat 333 941 9018 10292
(3.24) (9.14) (87.62) (100.00)

7. Haryana 76 0.00 3635 3711
(2.05) (0.00) (97.95) (100.00)

8. Himachal 138 40 832 1010
Pradesh (13.66 (3.96) (82.38) (100.00)

9. Jammu & 80 135 799 1014
Kashmir (7.89) (13.31) (78.80) (100.00)
10. Karnataka 995 614 10712 12321
(8.08) (4.98) (86.94) (100.00)
11. Kerala 51 33 1712 1796
(2.84) (1.84) (95.32) (100.00)
12. Madhya Pradesh 1796 5565 14750 22111
(8.12) (25.17) (66.71) 100.00)
13. Maharashtra 1262 1532 18131 20925
(6.03) (7.32) (86.65) (100.00)
14. Manipur 5 77 93 175
(2.86) (44.00) (53.14) (100.00)
15. Meghalaya 0.00 302 0.00 302
(0.00) (100.00) (0.00) (100.00)
16. Mizoram 0 84 0 84
(0.00) (100.00) (0.00) (100.00)
17. Nagaland 0 968 0 968
(0.00 (100.00) (0.00) (100.00)
18. Orissa 454 1520 3322 5296
(8.57) (28.70) (62.73) (100.00)
19. Punjab 95 0 3938 4033
(2.36) (0.00) (97.64) (100.00)
20. Rajasthan 2464 1759 16748 20971
(11.75) (8.39) (79.86) (100.00)

21. Sikkim 2 48 61 111
(1.80) (43.24) (54.95 (100.00)
22. Tamil Nadu 534 87 6853 7474
(7.14) (1.16) (91.69) (100.00)
23. Tripura 31 138 139 308
(10.06) (44.81) (45.13) (100.00)
24. Uttar Pradesh 1885 57 16044 17986
(10.48) (0.32) (89.20) (100.00)
25. West Bengal 1114 397 4145 5656
(19.70) (7.02) (73.29) (100.00)
26. Union 2 21 117 140
Territories (1.43) (15.00) (83.57) (100.00)

All INDIA 13173 17908 134426 165507
(7.96) (10.82) (81.22) (100.00)

Note: Figures in brackets are percentages.